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Amble Urban District Council

REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
Year 1957



Northwick

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1957

To the Chairman and Members of the Amble Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year 1957, which is the third report I have made.

The vital statistics give a very favourable picture and compare well with the National Statistics. All the mortality rates are below the National Mortality Rates, and the birth rate slightly exceeds the National one.

The estimated mid-year population has remained static at 4810, although births fell by 2 giving a rate of 16.42 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 16.1 for England and Wales.

There was only one stillbirth giving the low rate of 12.5 per 1,000 live and stillbirths (England and Wales 22.5) and no infant death was recorded.

The death rate (9.56 per 1,000 of the population) is also below the National Average (11.7) and, as previously found, the bulk of the deaths was due to heart and circulatory diseases and cancer. Heart and circulatory diseases accounted for 37% of all deaths and cancer almost 20%. It is interesting to note that coronary disease fatalities were confined to females in the 70 - 90 age group and that there were only 5 male deaths out of a total of 17 deaths due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system. Lung cancer caused a third of the cancer deaths, whereas in the previous year, half of the cancer deaths were due to this cause.

With the changing age structure of the population there has been a change in the incidence of certain diseases. The successful attack on the infectious diseases has also influenced the pattern, and this change can be seen by reference to Table 2 which shows the principal causes of death from 1921 to 1937 and from 1954 to 1956. It should be noted when perusing these figures that heart disease and apoplexy should be grouped together under diseases of the heart and circulatory system.

In England and Wales, deaths from cardio-vascular, brain and kidney diseases have risen from 16.9% of all deaths in 1901, to 51.2% in 1956, and similarly cancer deaths have changed from 5% of total deaths to 17.7%.

The infectious diseases were benign in character and measles was the major offender. Measles has the habit of appearing biennially, and this is borne out by reference to previous years, e.g. 93 cases in 1957, 1 in 1956, 91 in 1955, 8 in 1954 etc.

The influenza epidemic started in September, at first sporadically. One practitioner reported that the children took it very mildly, adolescents took it rather badly with a tendency for a temperature to persist up to six days, young adults took it mildly but as age increased there was a tendency for chest complications which persisted for two to three weeks.

As soon as the influenzal epidemic was over streptococcal sore throats re-appeared, the latter having been very prevalent throughout the summer.

The case of acute poliomyelitis was a mild paralytic one with rapid recovery. The child had not been vaccinated against the disease.

The campaign against poliomyelitis continued during the year with the inoculation of 189 Amble children, between the ages of two and nine years. The demand was very pleasing and I am indebted to the local doctors for their help and co-operation in carrying out the inoculations at the Amble Child Welfare Centre so smoothly. The parents accepted the Salk Vaccine readily, and consequently we were not delayed by the shortage of British Vaccine.

Only one case of respiratory tuberculosis was notified and this one was found by the Mass Miniature X-ray Unit during the Unit's visit in July, when 1010 people attended. The response by the public was very good indeed.

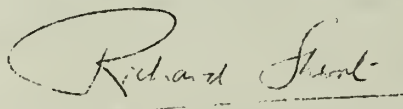
Only 2 cases of food poisoning were notified which were fortunately mild, but, nevertheless, indicate the danger which arises when food is handled negligently. Many of the shops have been brought up to the standard required by the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955, but bad habits are difficult to overcome and we must all set an example by ensuring that we continue to take the simple precaution of washing our hands after using the toilet and before handling food.

Progress in Slum Clearance was slow, although 2 clearance areas comprising 40 houses, were represented in October but have not yet been confirmed.

It is very regrettable that there remain approximately 37 earth closets in the town. In many cases these could easily be connected to the public sewer and I would urge the owners to remedy this as soon as possible.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and help during the year, and also to record my appreciation of the co-operation and assistance I have received from Mr. T.B. Adamson, Surveyor/Public Health Inspector, and his staff. My thanks must also go to the local doctors, and in particular, to Dr. Robertson for keeping me so well informed by means of his Sanitary Diaries.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,



Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the district is 1,220 acres.

The number of inhabited houses is 1,537 and the number of new houses completed during the year was 12.

The rateable value is £41,464 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £156.

The estimated mid-year population is 4,810 and this figure is taken when calculating the Birth and Death rate.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	40	37	77
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Totals	<u>40</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>79</u>
Birth rate per 1,000 of the population	16.42

<u>Still Births</u>			
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	..		12.50

Deaths of Infants under One Year

Number of Infant Deaths	NIL
All infants (rate per 1,000 live births)	NIL
Legitimate infants (rate per 1,000 leg. live births)	NIL
Illegitimate	NIL
Deaths from Measles	NIL
Deaths from Whooping Cough	NIL
Deaths from Diarrhoea	NIL

Deaths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	23	23	46
Death rate per 1,000 of the population			9.56
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis			NIL
Deaths from Other Puerperal Causes			NIL
Deaths from Cancer			9

Table 1.

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Other)	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	-	2
" " Lung, Bronchus	2	1	3
" " Breast	-	1	1
" " Uterus	-	-	-
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	2	1	3
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	1	4	5
Coronary Disease, Angina	-	3	3
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	1	1
Other Heart Disease	3	2	5
Other Circulatory Disease	1	2	3
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	-	3	3
Bronchitis	3	-	3
Other diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	-	3
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	-	-
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	2	3	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
All Other Accidents	1	-	1
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-
Totals	<u>23</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>46</u>

Table 2.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH1921 to 1937 and from 1954 to 1956

Year	Popu- lation	Heart Disease	Apop- lexy	Tuber- culosis	Cancer	Pneu- monia	Whooping Cough	Bron- chitis
<u>Pre- War Period</u>								
1921	4840	7	1	6	6	3	2	2
1922	4814	5	4	1	5	6	6	4
1923	4801	3	4	7	5	-	-	3
1924	4673	3	4	1	8	6	-	3
1925	4637	10	5	3	9	5	-	1
1926	4492	2	1	3	4	6	2	2
1927	4413	6	3	3	8	7	-	6
1928	4039	8	10	-	6	2	-	2
1929	4169	16	11	5	11	3	3	2
1930	4180	10	4	4	3	6	-	3
1931	4171	20	5	5	8	4	-	-
1932	4175	7	7	5	3	2	-	2
1933	4238	15	4	3	6	1	-	2
1934	4364	15	3	4	3	2	-	3
1935	4377	19	6	5	6	3	-	-
1936	4323	14	2	4	7	4	-	1
1937	4321	11	5	3	6	6	-	2
<u>Post- War Period</u>								
1954	4800	13	9	1	8	1	-	2
1955	4770	13	15	-	13	-	-	4
1956	4810	10	9	1	9	1	-	-
1957	4810	9	5	-	9	3	-	3

Table 3.INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever	-
Whooping Cough	1
Diphtheria	-
Measles	93
Pneumonia	3
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1
Dysentery	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Smallpox	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-
Enteric Fever	-
Erysipelas	1
Food Poisoning	2

Table 4.TUBERCULOSIS

<u>Respiratory</u>	
<u>Male</u>	<u>Age</u>
1	61 years

Table 5.

<u>PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY REPORTS 1957</u>	
<u>RESULTS</u>	
Fusiform bacilli	1
Fusiform bacilli and vincent's spirochaete	5
Haemolytic streptococci	74
C. diphtheriae	-
Coagulase positive staphylococci	9
" negative "	1
	90
Negatives	22
Total number of throat swabs taken	112

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT
1957

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my fourth Annual Report for the year 1957, being my third year of service with you, as required by the Ministry of Health.

In a small office, most of the time is taken up in dealing with the routine but still important affairs of everyday living and only a limited time can be spared for new projects. However, during the year the St. Lawrence Avenue Housing Scheme was completed and plans were laid for the commencement of the Slum Clearance Programme. Extensive road repairs were carried out in Allison Street and Percy Street, and bus shelters became a reality at last in Albert Street and High Street. A new pumping unit was installed at Hazon, and improvements were carried out at Morwick reservoirs, although unfortunately no more water became available for filling into same. The turning down of the Morwick Gate Borehole Water Scheme by the Ministry concerned was a great disappointment. A new diesel refuse collection vehicle was purchased and arrangements were made to extend the refuse tipping capacity at the Braid. The mortuary was also improved and a system of charges for its use was introduced.

Remarks and recommendations are given under each heading of the work carried out during the year.

Finally, I wish to thank the Chairman of the Health Committee and members of the Council for their unstinted co-operation and to the staff for their conscientious service.

I am,
Your obedient servant,

T.B. ADAMSON,

Surveyor & Public Health
Inspector.

HOUSING

The total number of inhabited houses within the Urban District is 1537. The number of new houses built during the year was NIL by Local Authority and 12 by private persons.

No houses were closed or demolished under the Housing Acts during the year, but inspections of unfit properties continued to be made and official representations were presented in respect of properties in Marks Row, Albert Street, Prospect Place, North View and North Street.

180 houses were made fit by minor repairs under the Housing and Public Health Acts.

Under the Housing Act, 1949 (Improvement Grants) the following applications were dealt with:-

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS, HOUSING ACT 1949

1. Applications submitted to Local Authority during year	20
2. Applications rejected	1
3. Applications approved	19

Approximate average grant per house	£230 - 10 - 0d.
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Total grants approved since inception of the scheme until 31st December, 1957	47
and 31st March, 1958	53

It is pleasing to report that there is a continuing interest in the Improvement Grants Scheme, which, whilst not only helping considerably in eliminating many sub-standard houses from the total slum clearance problem, has also the beneficial effect of providing accommodation up to Council house standard.

Much time is given to explaining the scheme, studying plans and specifications and inspecting the finished work.

During the year, plans were prepared, tenders accepted and all preliminaries completed for the erection of a further 37 council houses, including 13, 3-bedroom terraced houses, 10, 3-bedroom semi-detached houses, 2, 2-bedroom bungalows and 12, 1-bedroom bungalows, as a first instalment of approximately 100 houses required in connection with the Council's Slum Clearance 5-year Programme.

CONVERSION TO WATER CLOSETS

There are still a proportion of houses within the Urban District which have no modern means of sanitation. It is therefore most pleasing to see a gradual increase in the number of conversions and to financially assist in this, the Council pay a grant of £5 for each conversion made. During the year a total of 11 water closets were provided, leaving approximately 37 earth closets still due for conversion.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

The increasing popularity of the District is shown by the many applications received annually for permission to site caravans. The Council own two large sites capable of holding a total of 350 caravans giving accommodation for 1,000 visitors per week during peak holiday periods.

Flush toilet facilities are available on both sites together with mains water obtainable from the many standpipes. Shopping accommodation is also provided on the sites supplying all the needs of the residents.

Part of the Buildings on the Lord Mayor's Site was converted to a toilet and ablution block for women, and the previous women's block transferred for the use of men, thus more than doubling the previous toilet accommodation.

Daily inspections are made during the season and a site warden was employed to carry out the many necessary cleansing and maintenance duties prompted by the large number of visitors. It was necessary for the town's outdoor staff to assist with placing of vans, levelling of sites, overcoming continual drainage problems, painting of conveniences, etc. and the vexed burden of grass cutting throughout the season.

STREET CLEANSING AND PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Street cleansing is carried out by two full-time employees and all street gullies are periodically cleansed. The work is becoming increasingly difficult and expensive by the regular tipping of minor's coal allocations in the street outside houses. This causes obstruction on the highway, street gullies become choked with small coals which in turn cause blockages in drains. The cleanliness of the town would be considerably improved and economies effected if this coal allocation were delivered "bagged" as in the case of other counties.

Litter left by holidaymakers is also a problem and with the increase of wrapped foods, stronger legislation will be necessary to make the public more litter conscious.

Six large litter baskets were purchased for use at the Links and Little Shore, and investigations are being made to replace defective street litter bins at minimum cost to the Council.

Street Lighting

The high standard of public lighting was maintained despite the many difficulties encountered principally due to many of the installations now being in very poor condition, being of great age, and also due to vandalism. However, a good start has been made to renew the installations on the main roads, especially Bede Street and Church Street and it is hoped that the improvements will continue over the next year or two until the whole of the system has been finally overhauled. A weekly inspection of lamps continues and replacements and repairs made immediately afterwards. Mainly for the benefit of the many visitors, lighting is now maintained throughout the summer months at little extra cost to the ratepayers.

Cleansing

A weekly collection of household and trade refuse was made throughout the year. The refuse is of a mainly heavy nature due to the amount of miner's concessionary coal used. With the increase of wrapped foodstuffs and newsprint, paper was still baled and sold for re-pulping.

From this source a gross amount of £133 - 12 - 0d. was received during the financial year ending 31st December, 1957.

Unfortunately the market price per ton fell consistently with the result that during 1957, the baling of waste paper became an uneconomical proposition.

PETROLEUM ACTS AND REGULATIONS

The duties under the Act are carried out by this Department and although the Public Health Inspector does not receive training in this sphere of work, it is often undertaken in addition to his normal routine duties in some urban and rural areas.

Close co-operation is maintained with the County Fire Prevention Department and I am indebted to these specialised Officers for their help and advice. As far as could be reasonably ascertained, all the petroleum installations complied with the provisions of the Acts and Regulations.

13 petroleum licences were issued during the year. No licences were issued to store carbide of calcium during 1957 as this product is now issued free to miners by the National Coal Board.

INSPECTION OF FOOD & FOOD PREMISES

Meat Inspection

A great deal of time is spent by your Inspectors on this highly important service and the following table will give some idea of the time factor involved.

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>excluding</u> <u>Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>&</u> <u>Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Ewes</u>	<u>Sows</u>
No. killed:	462	-	12	1,396	267	11	1
No. inspected:	462	-	12	1,396	267	11	1

All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci

Whole carcasses condemned:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned:	245	-	1	5	7	5	-

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned:	25	-	-	-	6	-	-

Cysticercosis Bovis

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned:	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by regridgeration:	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight of meat condemned - 3,967 lbs.

Slaughterhouses

There are two slaughterhouses registered within the Urban District. Both are maintained in a satisfactory state and owners always show a willingness to co-operate with suggestions for improvement of premises.

Slaughtermen

11 licences have been issued to slaughtermen within the district.

FOOD PREMISES

There are 57 food premises within the district as follows:-

Butchers	5	Fried Fish & Chips	3
Cafes	6	Public Houses	9
Bakery & Confectionery ..	6	Chemists	2
Mixed Grocery	26		

Of these 18 are licensed under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act 1955 for the sale and storage of prepacked ice cream.

Food Hygiene Regulations

Visits were paid to all food premises and a register giving details of conformity or otherwise with the Regulations is still being prepared. A copy of the Inspector's report is sent to the persons

concerned along with a direction to rectify any defect found. There has been no cause for persecution in any such cases and a readiness to co-operate is generally found. There have been no prosecutions taken under the Regulations.

No clean food guilds exist in the district and it was not found possible to give any lectures on Food Hygiene.

All condemned food is burned or buried at the controlled tip and during the year 302 lbs. of assorted tinned food was disposed of by this method.

MILK AND DAIRIES

13 dealers licences were issued during 1957 under the "Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1949" as amended.

There are two premises licenced for the storage and sale of milk, one in respect of T.T. milk and the other for Pasteurised milk.

WATER SUPPLY

Water is derived from springs, borehole and a deep well at Hazon together with an additional artesian supply from an N.C.B. prospecting borehole at Hartlaw which is brought by an overland pipe to discharge into the Hazon Well, giving minimum supplies of 110 gallons per minute and maximum supplies of 150 gallons per minute. A further borehole at Morwick supplies 69,000 gallons per day. (48 gallons per minute.)

At Morwick are situated two storage reservoirs capable of holding 2 million gallons which supply Amble U.D.C., parts of Morpeth R.D.C., parts of Alnwick R.D.C. and R.A.F. Station, Acklington.

	<u>Daily Average Consumption</u>	<u>Yearly total</u>
Acklington R.A.F.	39,600	14,454,000
Brookhill N.C.B.	21,800	7,957,000
Morpeth R.D.C.	60,900	22,228,000
Amble U.D.C.	124,800	45,652,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	247,100	90,291,000
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The second half of the year gave almost drought conditions, the rainfall for the year being only 24.18", nearly 4" less than average.

Considerable anxiety was experienced to maintain normal supplies especially when the new main to Amble Links Estate was brought into operation with the resultant increased supplies to the west end of the town and when the new Concrete Storage Tank was introduced by Morpeth R.D.C. Council. However, the co-operation of the various users in introducing economy measures ensured essential supplies. Opportunity was taken to clean out both reservoirs and to enclose the outlet of the north reservoir in a new covered chamber to avoid feathers, leaves and other impurities from entering the mains.

In addition to normal maintenance, including repairs to and cleaning of pumps and other plant, a new duplicate pumping unit (Lee Howl 12 H.P.) was installed at Hazon pumping station.

New mains were laid at Allison Street and Bisley Road. The normal number of burst mains and services were expeditiously attended to.

In the past, great difficulty has been experienced over most of the year in transporting pumps and supplies to Morwick reservoirs due to the soft unmetalled nature of the Green Lane, but a start was made during the year to repair this lane with ballast supplied free from British Railways, to ensure continuous access to the reservoirs for the whole of the year.

With a view to abolishing periods of scarcity of water supplies, the council decided to embark on the long delayed Morwick Gate Borehole Scheme, but the Ministry disapproved after the holding of a local public enquiry and the calling of the Council's Consulting Engineers and Surveyor to a conference at Whitehall. It is felt by the Council that the urban district of Amble will be assured of an ample water supply at all times when bulk supplies to outside authorities can be afforded from the County Council's proposed Regional Water Scheme.

A "drip-feed" chlorination treatment is carried out at Morwick.

Regular bacteriological tests of samples sent are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service. Of 24 samples submitted 14 were absolutely clear and 9 showed insignificantly small bacterial counts, while only one demanded investigation, viz. that taken at the Modern School when a new connection was made to the new Links Main. Local Chlorination was carried out with satisfactory results.

Chemical analyses of the water are as follows:-

Chemical Analysis of Water of Water at 30th May, 1957			
	Hazon Well	Hazon Ford	Hazon Springs
	p.p.m.	p.p.m.	p.p.m.
Total solids dried at 180°C	280	290	730
Chlorine as chlorides	26.6	26.6	28.4
Free ammonia	0.04	0.02	Trace
Aluminoid ammonia	0.04	Trace	0.01
Nitrogen as nitrates	Trace	Trace	Trace
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 80°F)	0.3	0.4	0.5
Total hardness	225	246	439
Permanent hardness	None	11	219
Temporary hardness	225	235	220
Lead and Copper	None	None	None
Iron	1.9	2.6	None
Appearance & colour	Orange yellow & (10) cloudy	Orange yellow (10) & cloudy	Ex. Pale yellow & (5) Clear
Smell & taste	Ferruginous	Ferruginous	Satisfactory
Microscopical examination of deposit	See report	See report	Satisfactory
pH value	7.0	7.0	6.8
		Hartlaw Bore	Merwick Bore
		p.p.m.	p.p.m.
Total solids dried at 180°C.		300	385
Chlorine as chlorides		28.4	53.3
Free ammonia		0.04	Trace
Aluminoid ammonia		Trace	Trace
Nitrogen as nitrates		Trace	Trace
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 80°F)		0.4	0.2
Total hardness		237	255
Permanent hardness		7	10
Temporary hardness		230	245
Lead and copper		None	None
Iron		5.4	0.8
Appearance & colour		Orange yellow & (20) Turbid	Ex. Pale yellow & (5) slightly cloudy
Smell & Taste		Ferruginous	Satisfactory
Microscopical examination of deposit		See report	See report
pH value		7.1	7.0

Reports of Chemical AnalysisHazon Well

This sample of well water is of satisfactory organic purity. It contains a considerable amount of iron which caused it to be cloudy, and microscopical examination shows the deposit to be almost entirely iron oxide. The settled water itself is of good colour.

Hazon Ford

This sample of water is of good quality organically but it contains a very considerable amount of iron as evidenced by analysis and its very cloudy appearance. On microscopical examination the deposit is seen to be composed of iron oxide.

Hazon Springs

This sample of spring water is of excellent organic purity. It is clear and practically colourless and contains no deposit for microscopical examination.

Hartlaw Bore

This sample of water contains a very large amount of iron oxide, but the water itself is of satisfactory organic purity. The settled water has a higher colour index than Hazon Springs or Morwick Bore and the deposit is seen to be iron oxide.

Morwick Bore

This sample of water contains considerably less iron than the Hazon Ford Bore and it is of satisfactory organic purity. The settled water is practically colourless and contains no deposit for microscopical examination.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>
a. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	7	30	5
b. Factories not included in a. in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	25	100	3
c. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises).	3 (Bldg. Sites)	300	-
Total	35	430	8

2. Cases in which defects were found:

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred by H.M. Inspector</u>
Sanitary Conveniences def.	1	1	1
Other offences	1	1	1
Want of Cleanliness	5	5	1
Total	7	7	3

RODENT CONTROL

Rodent Control is carried out in the district as per the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The bi-annual treatment of sewers showed a very small trace of infestation.

The following report for the year ending 31st March, 1958, as required by the Ministry gives statistical details of the work.

	<u>Type of Property</u>				(5)
	<u>Non Agricultural</u>	<u>Non Agricultural</u>	<u>Non Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>	
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All other (including business premises)	(4) Total of (1) (2) & (3).	
1. Number of properties in Local Authorities District:	6	1537	243	1830	18
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
a. Notification	-	8	2	10	-
b. Survey under the Act:	6	119	17	142	18
c. Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose):	6	420	97	523	-
3. Number of properties inspected (in Sect.11) which were found to be infested by:					
a. Rats { (Major	-	-	-	-	-
(Minor	-	8	3	11	1
(Major	-	-	-	-	-
b. Mice { (Minor	-	6	4	10	-
4. Number of infested properties (in Sec.1V) treated by L.A.:	-	14	7	22	-
5. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:	-	-	-	-	-
6. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out:	-	-	-	-	-

SUMMARY OF OTHER WORK EFFECTED

	<u>After</u> <u>Informal Notice</u>	<u>After</u> <u>Formal Notice</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>			
Sanitary bins provided	16	-	16
Sanitary bins renewed	28	-	28
<u>Drainage</u>			
Drains repaired or reconstructed	25	-	25
Scullery sinks provided	19	-	19
Scullery waste pipes repaired	6	-	6
Yards repaired or reconstructed	-	-	-
<u>Water Supply</u>			
Sources closed or discontinued	-	nil	
Number of houses affected	-	nil	
New services provided:			
(a) <u>by local authority</u>			
Number of houses affected	-	nil	
(b) <u>by private owner</u>			
Number of houses affected	-	13	
Number of dwelling houses supplied by:			
(a) internal tap	-	1484	
(b) standpipes in yard	-	56	
<u>Infectious Diseases (including Food Poisoning)</u>			
No. of visits	-	20	
<u>Problem Families</u>			
No of visits	-	4	
<u>Nuisances (various)</u>			
No. of visits	-	156	
No. of notices (informal)	-	30	
No. of notices (statutory)	-	nil	

AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
AMBLE.

May, 1958.

SHIPPING REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1958

1. Staff

TABLE A.

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
T.B. Adamson	Public Health Inspector	Feb. 1955	Cert. Royal Sanitary Ass. of Scotland. H.A.P.H.I.	Surveyor

Address and Telephone number
of the Medical Officer of Health.
Home --

Dr. R. Short
Alnwick 2263
Alnmouth 323

11. Amount of shipping entering
the district during the year

TABLE B.

Classification	Number	Number Inspected By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Public health Inspector	No. of ships repor- ted as having or had during the voyage infectious disease on board.
Foreign	13	Nil	6	Nil
Coastwise	342	Nil	58	Nil
Total	355	Nil	64	Nil

111. Character of shipping and trade
during the year

TABLE C.

Passenger Traffic	(Number of passengers inwards	-	Nil
	(Number of passengers outwards	-	Nil
Cargo Traffic	(Principal imports	-	Nil
	(Principal exports	-	Coal

Principal Ports from
which ships arrive

Aberdeen, London, Newcastle, Shoreham and mainly British Ports.

IV. Inland barge traffic

There is no inland barge traffic.

V. Water supply

The Council as the water undertakers, supply both the port and shipping from town mains. The water is sold to the Harbour Commissioners who are responsible for supplying the ships. Supply is carried out by means of hydrants and hosepipes. The hosepipes are kept in the stores belonging to the Harbour Commissioners and flushed before being used. There are no water boats.

VI. Public Health (Ships) Regulations

1. List of infected areas

of the World Health Organisation

The Weekly Epidemiological Record is received by this Authority and copy forwarded to the Customs Officer who receives the declarations of health coming from ports other than excepted ports. These are then forwarded to the Council Offices.

2. Radio Messages

Link-up radio telephone through radio station Cullercoats to ship.

3. Notifications otherwise than by radio

Signals received by Coast Guard Station and communicated by telephone to Harbour Master's office.

4. Mooring Stations

Should any infectious disease exist on board the ship is moved to the west jetty and quarantined until the appropriate steps are taken.

5. Arrangements for:-

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases. Isolation for infectious diseases would be provided in Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle.

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts. Surveillance and follow up of contacts is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles. Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles are carried out when required under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

VII. Smallpox

(1) Smallpox cases would be sent by ambulance to Langley Park Hospital, Co. Durham, tel. Langley Park 214.

(2) Transport would be by ambulance from the Northumberland County Council Ambulance Service.

(3) Smallpox Consultants available:-

Dr. W. Minns, Deputy County M.O., County Hall, Newcastle.

Dr. J. Grant, M.O.H., Greensfield House, Gateshead.

Dr. H. Pearson, Dunston Hill Hospital, Gateshead.

(4) Laboratory facilities at Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle.

VIII. Venereal Disease

Available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal diseases at:-

General Hospital	-	Newcastle on Tyne.
Preston Hospital	-	North Shields.
22, Stanley Street	-	Blyth.

Notices are exhibited in the Public Conveniences in the town.

IX. Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious diseases

No cases of infectious diseases were reported as having occurred on vessels during the voyage.

X. Observations on occurrence of malaria

No cases of malaria have been reported.

XI. Measures against ships suspected of infection with plague

No cases of suspected plague have been reported.

XII. Measures against Rodents

Vessels inspected showed little or no signs of rodent infestation.

Arrangements available for deratting are traps or poisoning.

No rats were destroyed on ships from foreign ports.

The authority is not an "approved" port for the issue of Deratting certificates.

XIII. Inspection of Ships

No nuisances were found in vessels inspected.

XIV. Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations 1934 and 1948

An area at the mouth of the River Coquet has been prescribed as a prohibited area for the laying of shell-fish beds or collection therefrom, in accordance with the above regulations. The prohibition has been in force since 19th November, 1946.

XV. Medical Inspection of Aliens

The port is not approved for the landing of Aliens.

XVI. Miscellaneous

The Council own a mortuary which could be utilised in making arrangements for the internment of the dead.

R. SHORT.

Medical Officer of Health.

